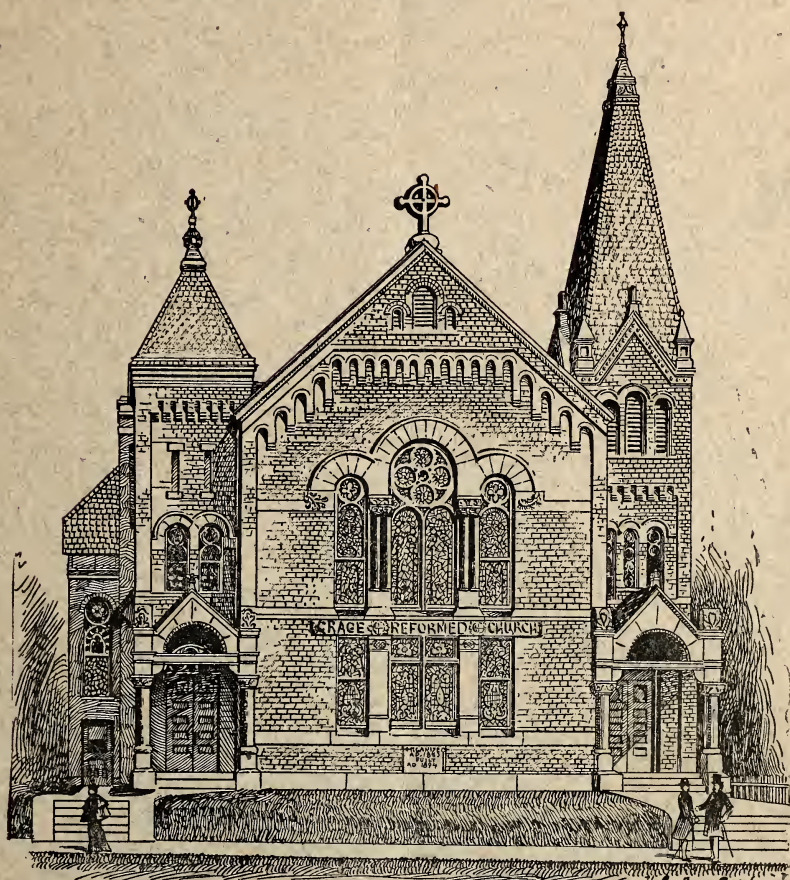


APRIL, 1896.

# Grace Church Visitor.



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Prayer Meeting, (Wednesday), . . . 7:30 P. M.

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# Grace Church Visitor.

*A Monthly Magazine Devoted to Christian Nurture and Fellowship,  
Aggressive Church Work and Applied Christianity.*

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VOL. VIII.

APRIL, 1896.

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No. 1.

WITH this issue we begin the eighth volume of THE VISITOR. Now is the time to renew your subscriptions.

---

W. V. ZARTMAN, of Columbus, Ohio, made a flying trip to Fort Wayne a few weeks ago. We were glad to see him and regret that he could remain with us no longer.

---

MR. BUCK has returned to the city again and is at our services every Sabbath. He has lately bought an interest in the Fist Market, on West Main street. When you need fish just call at his place.

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THE "Mother Goose Market" and entertainment given April 23 was a great success in every particular. The entertainment was comic and enjoyed by every one. The crowd could scarcely be accommodated. The net receipts amounted to \$37 00. At some later date the entertainment will be repeated.

---

WHIT Sunday, May 24, Grace Church will celebrate its thirteenth anniversary. It being Memorial day and since the morning will be given to a service for the Grand Army posts and military organizations of the city, the anniversary services will be held in the evening. There will be a short address by the pastor and a general fellowship meeting. It is the wish of the pastor that every member of the church may be at this service.

LOUIE BÉRCOT recently played a wedding march on his Fort Wayne friends. He went over into Michigan on a little visit and came back with a bride. He was very sly about it, but it is all right and THE VISITOR extends its best wishes.

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## MEMORIAL DAY.

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The following organizations will attend services at the Grace Reformed Church Sabbath morning, May 24: The Union Veteran Legion, Anthony Wayne Post, Colonel E. S. Walker Sons of Veterans, Ladies' Aid Society, True Blues, Zollinger Battery, Fort Wayne Rifles, First Regiment Band. All the old soldiers and friends not included in any of the above organizations are invited to the services. The whole seating capacity of the auditorium will be reserved for these organizations and their friends, if necessary. The lecture rooms of the church and gallery will be open for members of the church and the children of the Sabbath school. We are anxious to make this one of the greatest services the old soldiers and their friends have ever had in Fort Wayne. As a church let us give them such an ovation that the old veterans will feel that we fully appreciate the sacrifices they and their comrades made for us. We expect to have elaborate decorations for the day and shall be glad for all the flowers that we can get.

## PUT ON THE CHECK-REIN.

BY REV. THEODORE L. CUYLER.

We are living in a fast age and a fast country.. There is need of the brakes as well as of the engine; there are too many young men who understand the whip better than the check-rein. When the upset comes it is found that the head is softer than the pavement; and perhaps the idea is beaten into that soft head that prudence demanded slower driving.

On Sabbath afternoon it is quite too common to meet a group of showily-dressed young men whose cigars and noisy talk show the rate at which they are travelling. While wiser young men are at their Bible class, these youths are out on a dress-parade, exhibiting their fast manners and habits to the public. One of the group has chosen the club house for his Sunday resort, and another tries his good mother's heart sorely by coming home at midnight from the theater, and a wine supper after it. Before long there will be vacant situations in the business houses where these fast fellows are employed. Prudent merchants do not care to keep in their counting-rooms the clerks that wear too much jewelry and are seen too often at the counter of the fashionable saloons. There is an upset ahead for these young Jehus if they don't put on a check-rein.

Poor Harry Rapid's young wife called in to inquire if I could recommend a "very cheap boarding house," and knew of any place where her husband could find employment. Her face was as faded as her dress. It would have been well if Harry and his broken-down young wife had looked for plain frugal quarters when they began their matrimonial career. But they set up in ambitious style in a fine "flat," with sealskin sacques and a box at the opera and a fast horse for the drive to the beach. Now they have been sold out and are glad to hide away in such humble quarters as

they can get. I trust that the sharp lesson will not be lost on them. This capsize of their showy turn-out may teach them that when Satan has a seat "on the box" it is a short road to ruin. Extravagance is one of the devil's bates in these days. It does not only break up homes; it breaks hearts. Both sound sense and moral courage are required by young people to conform to their circumstances and live with their means. The next thing is to know how to use money as a sacred trust and not to spend it in gratifying the lust of the eye, the lust of the flesh, and the pride of life.

In the same counting room with Harry Rapid a while ago was young George Surepace. He was considered by his companions as decidedly "slow." Some of his fellow clerks made sport of his plain tweed coat and his Puritanical ways; they never could induce George to join one of their clubs, or to go with them to Brighton Beach on Sunday, or to take a game of "poker" over a glass of wine. He married an industrious girl who instead of studying Paris fashion plates, studied how to make both ends meet and how to make their cosy house look tidy when husband came home. Mary Surepace will soon bring her two rosy children to the Infant Department of the Sunday school, and George is already a leading man in the Society of Christian Endeavor. The other day he gave a spare ten dollars to his old fellow clerk, Harry Rapid, in order to aid him in getting his watch out of pawn. I have watched these two young couples; it was the old race between the fast hare and the jogging tortoise; the hare has run himself out of breath and out of character; the slow and careful tortoise has won the race.

It is not only young people who need to put on the check-rein in the way that we have just indicated. Older people, yes, and good Christian people, need the check-rein also. Our American business life is one of humming activity, and it brings a tre-

mendous strain on the nerves and muscles and brains. The constant tendency is to feed the engine, crowd on the steam, and neglect the brakes. To these ever-toiling, care burdened men of business, I would venture to say, do not allow either your worldly ambitions or your honest daily avocations to mount you as a jockey mounts a race horse, and whip and spur you through every waking hour of your existence. They will ride you to death! When your day's work is over, lock up your cares in your store or shop; go home to your family "out of harness." Turn boy again for your own sake and for the sake of your children. If you work hard to have a house, enjoy it. The best way to keep your sons and daughters out of perilous evening resorts is to make your own fireside bright and attractive; or, if innocent entertainments offer elsewhere, go with wife and children to partake of them. Be the master of your own business, and not its slave! If either covetousness or care are over driving you, *put on the check-rein!*

One of the besetting snares of these times is to try to grow rich rapidly. "Slow and sure" are out of fashion. In that direction lies peril to the soul. They who make haste to be rich fall into temptations and snares and many hurtful lusts that drown men in perdition! Greed for gold drains away the sweetest and holiest affections of the heart; it dries up Christian benevolence; it robs God of His due. My long observation has been that when money flows in rapidly, grace is apt to flow out; and as a Christian mounts up as to his income, he rarely rises in piety with it. There are some happy exceptions, but they are the men who keep a check-rein on the grasping, greedy spirit of covetousness. My good brother, it is no easy thing to keep up a high tone of spiritual life amid all the atmospheric pressures that surround you; to do it you have got to take

time to eat and to think and to read your Bible and to pray and to do some good work for your Master and your fellow men. If you are running your daily life at too fast a rate for all these vital things, then I entreat you in God's name to *put on the check-rein!*—*The Evangelist.*

---

MR. BODEL'S assistance in our Easter revival services was very much appreciated by our people. His sermons were impressive and very helpful to the church. We were only sorry that he could not remain with us for another week, but other engagements made it impossible for him to remain any longer. He has been quite successful in his work during the past year. He expects for the present to continue in the Evangelistic work and at some future time we hope to have him with us again.

---

THE attendance at our Easter Communion was quite large, nearly all the members of the church were in attendance and participated in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, some who had not communed for some years past. The accessions on Easter morning make the number of additions to the church within the past four months some over seventy. This is proof of the activity of the church and above all, of the Lord's blessings upon its work. We hope to have a number of other accessions in the near future. Let us have a continuous harvest of souls; this is possible if we do not grow weary in well doing. Let us never be satisfied with what has been achieved in the past. Every day brings with it its opportunities and its responsibilities and if we but do our part the Lord will surely use us to win souls for his kingdom.

---

ANNIVERSARY Day, May 24, will be a day of special thanksgiving to the Lord. Let us also bring a special thank offering on that occasion.



# GRACE CHURCH VISITOR

REV. A. K. ZARTMAN, Editor and Publisher.

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THE General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States convenes at Dayton, Ohio, May 27.

MRS. WINGATE is slowly recovering from her attack of illness. We shall be glad to see her at church again.

REV. CHARLES ROW, of Liberty Center, Ohio, called at the parsonage on a recent Saturday. He is doing a good work in his field of labor.

WHEN you want your scissors, knives or lawn mowers sharpened remember there is no one in the city that does the work so well as Mr. Dukeman.

MRS. FISHERING and her two little sons, from Richmond, Ind., were at our services on a recent Sabbath morning. They have been the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Fry. Mrs. Fishering was formerly a member of the Grace Church. We were very glad to meet her again. We learn that it is probable that she may return to Fort Wayne again and make this her home.

## DEATH'S HARVEST.

Mrs. Mary J. French was born at Lima, Ohio, Jan. 31, 1839, departed this life Monday at noon March 23, 1896, aged 57 years, 1 month and 22 days.

More than a year ago Mrs. French was taken with a severe attack of pneumonia, and for a number of weeks she was in a critical condition, but by careful treatment and nursing she regained sufficient health and strength so that she was able to be about the house and take an occasional ride upon the streets. Her sickness left her in an impaired condition and it was only a matter of time until the end would come. On Saturday prior to her death she took worse and it was evident at once that she was only a few days longer for this world. Everything possible in the form of human help was done for her comfort and to prolong her life, but the time of her departure was at hand and the Lord took her unto himself.

During the Sabbath night and forenoon previous to her death the pastor was at her bed side almost continuously, talking with her and reading for her from the word of God. She had no fear of death and said the way before her was as the bright and shining light and that she was ready for the change. In her farewell words to her family she asked them all to meet her in heaven. During her whole time of sickness she was always cheerful, confiding wholly in the Lord and fully resigned to His will and purpose with her.

She united with the Grace Reformed Church by confirmation May 1, 1887. She was a faithful and devoted member of the church and when health would permit was always at the services. During the past year she was not permitted to be at any of our services, but the pastor very frequently called at her home and had a service of scripture reading and prayer with her, in which she always found great pleasure.

She had won for herself the love and esteem of the church and large circle of friends. No one knew her, but to love and respect her. She was very much attached to her own home and family and was a very affectionate mother.

She leaves to mourn her death her four daughters, Miss Nellie, Mrs. Henry Stouder, Mrs. Ed. Young, Mrs. A. Jackson, and her son, Edward.

The funeral services were held at the home, on West Superior street, Wednesday afternoon, March 25.

Our prayer is that the Lord may comfort the bereaved daughters, son and friends, and at last bring them home to Himself above, and where the whole family may again be reunited, where death and parting shall never come.

---

Chester, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry W. Driftmeyer, was born in Fort Wayne July 11, 1885, died Monday morning, April 20, 1896; was aged 10 years, 9 months and 9 days.

Since early last fall Chester had been in failing health, and many times it was thought that death was at hand. But the Lord was gracious and spared his life for a time longer and in a few days he was again able to be out, and we were rejoiced to see him again in our Sunday School services, in which he took so much interest and delight. His last illness was very brief. He took sick on Saturday night and on the following night at half past one o'clock the spirit took its flight to the God who gave it. While we were very anxious that Chester might be spared to his parents and friends and the church, the Lord saw best to take him unto Himself. He was the only child in the home and we well know he was the pride and comfort of his parents and friends, and he was a child of great promise to the church and there were many sad and disappointed hearts when he was taken away. He was cut

down like a fair young flower, so full of hope and beauty, and we were all loathe to part with him.

Since about five years of age he has been in our Sabbath School and was one of the most attentive and interesting children we had. His whole heart was set upon the Sabbath School and church and was never absent except in cases of illness or while out of the city. We looked forward with very fond anticipations to the time when he might come to years of manhood, and what a power he would then be in the church. We have been told by one of the family that when Chester had no money to spare for anything else, he always had something from his purse for his Sunday school and church, and on the morning before his death one of his little companions called to see him on her way to Sabbath school and he sent his money with her for his class offering. He was far more thoughtful and of a more liberal spirit than many older people. We shall miss him very much in the school and church, but he will not be forgotten. The window in the east entrance of the church will always stand as a memorial to his devotion and love for Grace Church. But most of all he will be missed in the home, by father and mother, grandmother and his aunt. May the Lord comfort their sorrowing hearts with the blessed assurance that he doeth all things well. He has only gone home and in some sweet day by and by they shall meet again.

In compliance with his own request made a few months ago the funeral services were held from the Grace Church on Wednesday afternoon, April 22. The pastor was assisted in the services by Rev. J. H. Bosch, pastor of the St. John's Reformed Church, of which the parents are members. At the conclusion of the services the body was taken to the Lindenwood cemetery and was laid away in the vault, for interment at a later date.

Bernard Mechling, brother-in-law of the pastor, passed away peacefully at his beautiful country home near Glenford, Ohio, on Friday evening, April 17. We had been advised by letter several times during the week of the serious illness of Mr. Mechling, but still had hoped that his sickness might not prove fatal, until at a late hour on Friday evening, when we received a telegram announcing his death. He was confined to his bed only about six days. He took with pneumonia and a complication of diseases, and though a number of the best physicians in the community were called in, all their efforts to save life were in vain. Mr. Mechling was one of the most successful farmers in that section of the country and a very highly respected citizen. He was a member of the Lutheran Church and for thirty-five years he served in the office of Sunday school superintendent of his church. The funeral services were held from the St. Paul's church near Glenford, Ohio, on Sabbath morning, April 19. The services were conducted by the pastor of the church, Rev. Bachman. Not long ago we received a letter from Mrs. Mechling stating that they expected to pay a visit to their friends at Fort Wayne this spring. The members of Grace Church will remember Mrs. Mechling and daughter, Estella, who have both been to visit us since in this city. Mr. Mechling had not been to see us since in Fort Wayne, but we had been anxiously looking forward to the time when he might spend some days with us again. While on our brief visit home a short time ago we spent an afternoon and night with Mrs. Mechling and family. We found them in great sorrow, though fully reconciled to the Lord's will. Their home was full of sadness and every where there was one missing. Mr. Mechling was one of those happy, congenial and hospitable souls that always had a cordial welcome for every one who came to his home. He will

be greatly missed by his family and friends and by his church. He leaves to mourn his death his wife, three sons and one daughter. A devoted servant of the Lord has gone to his reward. His work is done and "well done." We look forward to that glorious day when we shall meet again in the father's house above.

There is no death! What seems so is transition.  
This life of mortal breath  
Is but a suburb of the life elysian,  
Whose portal we call death.

---

OWING to the fact that no suitable room could be secured the ladies have postponed their festival until next fall, when they will hold a regular bazaar. We believe this was the right thing to do under the circumstances.

---

L. W. HILLS has now thirty-three boys enrolled in his class. They range in ages from nine to thirteen years. The class has grown very rapidly since Mr. Hills has charge of it. The boys are hustlers and we are assured that the church may expect great things from them

---

THURSDAY evening, April 23, at Hadley Station John F. Flough and Clara A. Doughman were united in marriage by the pastor. The marriage took place at the residence of the bride's father, Mr. Abraham Doughman, an old settler of Allen county. Some twenty or more guests were present to witness the ceremony and partake of the bounteous supper. Mr. and Mrs. Flough are well known in their community and in the city and have many friendly who extend their congratulations.



## Sabbath School.

### SABBATH SCHOOL RECORD FOR MARCH.

March 1, attendance, 117.	Collection \$	4.01
" 8, " 156.	"	4.11
" 15, " 131.	"	4.32
" 22, " 136.	"	4.37
" 29, " 149.	"	21.58

Total, - - - - - \$38 39

WALTER F. CLOSE, Sec'y.

THE Sabbath school has reached a high water mark. There is an enrollment of nearly 270, and there are new scholars coming in every Sabbath. We expect to have a flower day service for the children some time in June.

THERE is some talk of organizing a boys' brigade, or something of the kind, for the army of boys in our Sabbath school and church; and then why not have something for the girls, too.

THE ladies of the church having copies of the *Japan Evangelist* or *Missionary Guardian* are requested to return the same to the president of the Ladies' society, Mrs. C. H. Gumpfer, that when their reading is completed they may be placed in the library.

MR. AND MRS. MOORE visited their son, George, at Gas City, Ind., recently. He is employed in a large glass factory and is one of the best boys they have, and will soon be an expert glass blower. Mr. and Mrs. Moore say they had a very pleasant time while on their visit.

EVERY family of the church should subscribe for THE VISITOR. In this way only will you be certain of a copy of each issue. You can hand your subscription to L. W. Hills, Samuel Dukeman or the pastor.

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**PRAYER MEETING TOPICS AND LEADERS**

May 17. How God rewards those who do His will. Matt. 25: 31-46. Josie Zartman.

May 24. Christ's widening kingdom. Isa. 11: 1-10. (A missionary topic.) Mrs. C. H. Gumpfer.

May 31. Ready for death. Matt. 24: 36-51. Tena Welden.

THE CHORUS CLASS sang for the first time on Sunday School Rally Day. The class has been very highly complimented on its singing. The young people are doing very well and are a great help to the church and Sabbath school.

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Gunpowder, 30c; very best 50c.  
Oolong Black Tea, 25c; best 50c.  
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English Breakfast, 30c; best quality, 50c.  
Tea in 1 lb. packages, 15c; Imperial best, 50c.

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